1.7.7.8,

tistes of all or any of the faid commodities, any thing to the contrary HI, W. potwithstanding.

Defendants may plead the general issue, &c,

recVIII and be it eneated, That if any action or suit shall be commented against any person or persons for any thing done in pursuance of this act, the defendant or defendants in any such action or suit may plead the general iffue, and give this act and the special matter in evidence at any trial to be had thereupon, and that the same was done in pursuance and by the authority of this act; and if it shall appear so to have been done, the jury shall find for the defendant or defendants, and if the plaintiff shall be non-suited, or discontinue his action after the defendant or defendants shall have appeared, or if judgment shall be given upon any verdict or demurrer against the plaintiff, the defendant or defendants shall and may recover treble costs, and have the like remedy for the same as any defendant or defendants hath or have in other cales by law.

Continuance.

LX. This act to continue and be in force until the fifteenth day of November next.

## C H A P. IV.

An ACT concerning the gun-lock factory in Frederick-Town in Frederick county.

Every thing belonging to the factory to be fold by vendue, &c.

E it enaced, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the land, houses, servants, and every article, material, or thing, belonging or appertaining to the gun-lock factory in Frederick-Town in Frederick county, shall be sold by public vendue to the highest bidder; and the monies arising from such sale shall be immediately paid into the western shore treasury, for the public use, by the commissioners herein after named, after deducting one and a half per cent. from the amount of the sales, as a full compensation for their trouble and expences,

Names of the commissioners, &c.

II. And be it enasted, That Messrs. George Murdock and Benjamin Johnson, shall be and are hereby appointed commissioners for the sale of the said gun-lock factory, who are directed by advertisement to give due and timely notice of the said sale, so that the time of sale shall not be later than the first day of September next; provided that no locks, or any other articles appertaining to the public arms, be fold as afore-And, to facilitate the execution of this law, said.

Supervisors to furnish coma lift, &c.

III. Be it enacted, That the supervisors or managers of the said missioners with factory shall furnish the said commissioners with an exact list of the land, servants, and every other article or material to the same belonging, within ten days after they shall be requested by said commissioners so to do, under the penalty of fifty pounds common money.